

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 198297  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
ACDA-07 /103 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RPOST:SM X29742  
APPROVED BY AF:WHARROP  
-----116555 202005Z /65

R 200021Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY SANA DJIBOUTI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 198297

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, ET, SO, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET/CUBAN SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA

1. SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU CALLED AF/E DIRECTOR AUGUST 19  
TO SAY THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED TELEGRAPHIC INSTRUCTIONS  
AND WAS CALLING TO CONVEY THEM SINCE HE LEAVING FOR AIR-  
PORT IN MINUTES. INSTRUCTIONS WERE FROM SOMALI FONMIN  
WHO ASKED THAT USG SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT: (A) CUBAN  
INVOLVEMENT IN ETHIOPIAN CONFLICT INCREASING SHARPLY;  
(B) SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ETHIOPIA INCREASING AT  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 198297

STAGGERING PACE; (C) GIVEN THIS EVIDENCE THAT "OTHER SIDE"  
HAS THROWN ITS WEIGHT HEAVILY BEHIND ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA  
NEEDS MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT FROM U.S. IN COMING WEEKS  
AND MONTHS. ADDOU DID NOT ELABORATE, ADVISED HE WOULD BE  
RETURNING FROM MOGADISCIO IN TWO WEEKS, AND RANG OFF TO  
CATCH CONCORDE FLIGHT FROM DULLES.

2. IT NOT CLEAR WHAT SPECIFIC PURPOSE ADDOU'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE INTENDED TO SERVE. LINE ABOUT CUBANS AND SOVIETS HAS BECOME SOMALI STANDARD AS THEY SEEK TO FIND SOME RATIONALE SUFFICIENTLY ACCEPTABLE TO THE WEST TO WARRANT WESTERN SUPPORT FOR SOMALIA DESPITE THEIR ACTIONS IN THE OGADEN. AS EXAMPLE, IN MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AUGUST 18, ADDOU CLAIMED SOMALI INTELLIGENCE HAD REPORTS

OF 1,500 CUBANS IN ASSAB, 600 TO 700 IN ADDIS ABABA, OTHERS WERE NOW "USING" KAGNEW STATION, AND MEANWHILE, SOVIET SUPPORT FOR MENGISTU UNSTINTING. HE CLAIMED SOMALIS THEREFORE FEAR AN ATTACK ON NORTHERN SOMALIA WHICH COULD FORCE SOMALIA TO ACCEPT A SOVIET-DICTATED PEACE. ADDOU GAVE WASHINGTON POST EDITOR VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL PRESENTATION SEVERAL DAYS PREVIOUSLY (POST HAS NOT YET USED IT).

3. FOR MOGADISCIO: YOU MAY WISH COMMENT ON PURPOSE OF ADDOU'S INSTRUCTIONS, IF ANY BEYOND DESIRE REITERATE STANDARD LINE.

4. FOR ADDIS ABABA: FOR SOME TIME NOW, DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED NO NEW REPORTS CONCERNING EITHER CUBAN PRESENCE IN ETHIOPIA OR SOVIET ARMS DELIVERIES. WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER YOU CAN ESTABLISH ON THESE TOPICS FROM RELIABLE SOURCES. VANCE

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PAGE 03 STATE 198297

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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